

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 04324 292225Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SS-15 SSO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /044 W

-----292231Z 066803 /75

O 292202Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7458

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 4324

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PINS, VE, US

SUBJECT: US/GOV LEGAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT ON BOEING

REF: STATE 097216

1. THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND THE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER WERE TAKEN ABACK BY THE PROCEDURE REQUIRING THREE WEEKS TO RELEASE DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO BOEING. THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE POLITELY EXPLAINED THAT HE SIMPLY COULD NOT TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON AND RETURN EMPTY-HANDED. THIS POINT, HE SAID, WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSULTED ANEW WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ WHO IS CURRENTLY ON A STATE VISIT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. MINISTER ECHEVERRIA SUGGESTED AS AN ALTERNATIVE THAT HE SEND AN ENGLISH-SPEAKING ATTORNEY FROM HIS STAFF TO WASHINGTON TO READ THE FILE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE DOCUMENTS MERIT THE PROCEDURE INVOLVED. THE CRUCIAL POINT, OF COURSE, WOULD BE WHETHER THE MINISTER'S STAFF MAN WOULD BE GIVEN ACCESS TO THE FILES.

2. I SUGGESTED AS AN ALTERNATIVE THAT SOME MEANS BE FOUND TO PERMIT AMBASSADOR IDIBARREN TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT. THE PROCEDURES INVOLVED WERE MERELY THE USUAL BUREAUCRATIC PROCESS FOR THIS TYPE OF CASE.

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I SAW NO PURPOSE SERVED IN INFLATING AN ESSENTIALLY ROUTINE MATTER BEYOND ALL REASON AND ONE WHICH WOULD REQUIRE LONG-DISTANCE CONSULTATIONS WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ. I ALSO SAW NO NEED FOR THE MINISTER TO TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON. MINISTER ECHEVERRIA STATED THAT THE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER SAW THE AGREEMENT AS MORE OF A SECTORIAL ACCORD BETWEEN JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS AND WISHED TO AVOID

THE PARTICIPATION OF THE AMBASSADOR. HE PERSONALLY  
LIKED THE IDEA AND WOULD CONSULT ON THE MATTER WITH THE  
ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE ACTING PRESIDENT. HE  
SAID THAT HE WOULD BE BACK TO ME BY NO LATER THAN  
MONDAY, MAY 2.

3. IN THE MEANTIME, I PROMISED THE MINISTER THAT I  
WOULD QUERY THE DEPARTMENT AS TO WHETHER HIS STAFF MAN  
COULD HAVE ACCESS TO THE FILE PRIOR TO SIGNING THE  
AGREEMENT. PLEASE ADVISE.  
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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, INVESTIGATIONS, INFORMATION CONTROL  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PGOV, PINS, VE, US, BOEING  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009